

## SALT LAKE HERALD.

BY THE HERALD PUBLISHING CO.

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THE HERALD PUBLISHING COMPANY.  
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## Utah's Progress and Prospects.

Utah was founded and settled, not by a colony of capitalists, but by a body of refugees who had been pillaged and plundered and driven from their homes in the far distant state of Illinois. They brought with them little else than sublime faith, remarkable energy, fraternal union and good leadership to which they rendered willing obedience. They had a little grain and a few potatoes for seed, some tools, their wagons and animals and a scanty supply of absolute necessities by way of food.

This territory was a wilderness. It was considered by such adventurous travelers and hardy mountaineers as had reached the borders of the Great Salt Lake utterly incapable of supporting human life, an unproductive, arid, untillable desert. Scorching and parched by a burning sun in the rainless summer, frozen to lifelessness by the rigid winter, such vegetation as existed being nipped by the frosts of early fall, and kept from reviving by no less severe frosts and piercing blasts of delayed spring.

Utah was redeemed from sterility, then, and her towns and cities and villages were built up and improved by co-operative labor, the usual relations of employer and employee, of wage-payer and wage-earner, scarcely existing at all in the beginning and money by way of remuneration for services rarely circulating to any great extent for many years. The country was built up and improved by main strength and skill, by brawn and brain and not by capital.

This fact should be understood in order to appreciate what has been done since July, 1847, when white men first attempted to make a home in these now prolific valleys. Even after the city became famous and people flocked to it from many lands, very few possessed of more than meagre wealth joined the colony, but most of the accessions to the population were of persons who exhausted their scanty means in effecting the journey. Riches were not brought here for investment. Utah was chiefly built up from the development of its own resources by hard work and wise economy.

Its progress, however, was rapid. To most people abroad Utah means Salt Lake City. But as this city was founded and a commencement made to give it the appearance of a habitable town, other settlements followed, and in a few years cities and towns began to dot the face of the country north and south, east and west, and available spots for farming and stock-raising were sought out and occupied, until habitations could be found wherever a stream or a spring could be utilized for agriculture or domestic use.

Salt Lake city was laid out at the first for a metropolitan place. Its streets were made uniform in width—all eight rods wide—crossing each other at right angles, squares being reserved for parks as breathing places, ditches being run on each side of every street, shade trees planted along the borders. Its great area when organized as a municipality testifies to the design for a magnificent city. Other Utah cities and towns, though of smaller proportions, were modeled after a similar plan, and built up in similar fashion.

Intimations of the wealth hidden in the heart of the mountains were frequent in early times in Utah. But the great colonist and pioneer who led the people here and whose word was to many almost as law, advised the avoidance of prospecting and the postponement of any attempt at mining until the agricultural, stock-raising and manufacturing interests should be fully developed. He led out in all these enterprises. He discouraged burrowing in the hills for minerals and counseled letting them alone when discoveries were made.

Utah made rapid progress under these

conditions. Flocks and herds multiplied, grain was laid up in store, home manufactures were started of various kinds, self-sustenance was inculcated and the people were soon well supplied with necessities and some luxuries, and were usually content even when cash was a rarity and fine clothing and fine furniture were just as scarce.

The advent of the railroad aided in making a great change in Utah affairs. It contributed largely to Utah's progress. There was never any opposition to it, as many have supposed. A route for a railroad was marked out as the pioneers traveled across the plains, and a petition to Congress to favor its construction was one of the earliest memorials sent to the seat of government. The Mormon people built large sections of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads. BRIGHAM YOUNG and his sons and other leading men took and completed contracts on both these roads. The money received was largely invested in building the original Utah Central and Utah Southern railroads, now incorporated in the Union Pacific system.

Before the overland railroad was in operation, goods that were not manufactured in Utah had to be transported over the plains from the Missouri river, more than a thousand miles, in wagons generally hauled by ox-teams. Many remarkable improvements were made even at that time. The Salt Lake Theatre was built, and decorated with materials chiefly brought here in that primitive manner. So with the business places and dwelling houses that were finished and furnished with any pretence to elegance. The cost was great, and the territory was drained of its currency to meet the payment.

When the railroads came in, money came also. All kinds of merchandise was cheapened. Machinery could be imported more plentifully. Products were shipped out to money markets. Luxuries became more plentiful. Coal was brought in. Improvements were made in every direction. Taste in architecture began to be developed. Decorative art was cultivated. Salt Lake City began to put on a metropolitan appearance and to approach the form of its original design.

The opening and development of the mines though sprung prematurely, as viewed by the Mormon leaders, proved from the beginning a powerful aid in the progress of Utah. Men of some capital began to invest their means, and in many instances good returns resulted. Money circulated as it never did before. Improvements were possible that could not previously be attempted. Every branch of industry was stimulated and the comforts and luxuries of advanced civilization were distributed to a larger degree than at one time seemed possible. Still the capitalists who have brought into Utah great sums for investment have been few and far between, and what has been expended here is largely that which has been brought out of the mountains, produced from the soil and manufactured in the workshop and the mill.

Considering this, Utah's progress has been rapid and remarkable. Commenced in '47 with a hundred and forty-five people, almost penniless, on a houseless, foodless desert, the population in '92 has grown to at least 225,000. Settlements extend from Idaho in the north to Arizona in the south and from Wyoming in the east to Nevada in the west, many of the people of Utah having also overflowed into all those regions. Besides the flourishing cities of Salt Lake, Ogden, Provo, Logan and many others, hundreds of thrifty towns and villages flourish in the twenty-six counties of Utah.

Cattle roam by thousands on the hills. Sheep swarm on the mountains. Fine horses are raised for the road and farm and are famed on the race track. Cereals of all kinds are grown in abundance for home and foreign consumption. Cotton and grapes are grown in the south. Alfalfa and fine hay almost everywhere. Utah potatoes are the wonder of the world. Utah barley is the best in the land. Utah fruits of every variety cannot be excelled in flavor. Choice flowers adorn the stately mansion and the humble cottage. All sorts of vegetables of the semi-tropical and temperate zones are raised and used by the masses. Utah meats are of the choicest kinds.

Utah manufactures woolen cloths, blankets, shawls, stockings, boots and shoes, clothing, hats, gloves, carpets, brooms, cooper-ware, furniture, pottery, etc. Her sugar works produce from native beets the finest white sugar in the market. Salt from the shores of her inland sea is used for her smelting works and the table and is exported by train loads. Foundries and machine shops, mills and forges, gas works, electric light works, reduction works, etc., are among the many industries that help to increase the sum of Utah's wealth.

Minerals of all kinds are found in the hills and mountains, salt is shipped from the shores of our inland sea by train loads. Fine building stones of special

value are utilized and marble, slate, onyx and other ornamental stones of rare quality and variety are coming into use. There are mountains of iron and inexhaustible deposits of coal.

The telegraph, the telephone, electric lights and street cars and other modern improvements help to make Utah life convenient and enjoyable. Merchandise is now almost as varied and cheap here as in the large eastern cities. The people are as well dressed and there is less poverty than in any other part of the land.

Music and the drama are cultivated and encouraged here. Sculpture, painting and all the fine arts flourish. Salt Lake's Tabernacle choir, choral society, dramatic club, sculptors, painters and inventors are world famed. Societies for intellectual culture are numerous. All the leading religious denominations are represented. Freedom of belief and worship prevails. Education in the common schools is free. A university and many academies and high schools afford rare opportunities for advancement. Seven daily papers and a host of semi-weeklies and bi-monthlies furnish the current news of the world.

Utah, rapidly becoming wealthy, is yet largely undeveloped, but her prospects for the bringing forth of her immense and varied resources are luminous and encouraging. The strife which has hindered her progress is passing away. Her differences with the nation are settled. A glorious career is before her and close at hand. Her great attractions and boundless possibilities are commanding attention throughout the civilized world.

Each succeeding Christmas day finds Utah stronger, richer and better prepared for her high destiny. Founded in poverty and reared in adversity, she has raised herself to fortune and to fame and is now contributing to the wealth and prosperity of the nation that spawned her and cast her out. At the opening of the approaching century no part of the country which the inspired COLUMBUS opened to the world, will be grander, freer, happier and more progressive than Utah, queen of the mountains, the future pride of the great Republic.

## Politics in Utah.

The political past of Utah has been anomalous; its political present is somewhat peculiar; its political future is bright with promise and glowing with assurance of permanent independence and peace.

In 1847 Utah was settled by the Mormon pioneers, who were soon followed by their exiled friends driven from the confines of civilization more than a thousand miles away. The new colony, though commencing a new life upon Mexican soil, was chiefly composed of American citizens. They flung the stars and stripes to the breeze and proceeded to organize an American commonwealth. A provisional government was formed, under the Constitution of the United States, and delegates were sent in 1849 to Washington to apply for admission into the Union of the state of Deseret. By this time the region described in the State constitution had become by treaty part of the domain of the United States.

In 1850 Congress passed the organic act which made the area thus described the Territory of Utah. Brigham Young, the head of the Mormon church, was appointed governor. Most if not all of the offices under appointment of the President and Senate of the United States, were filled by Mormon incumbents. As there was no national issue under discussion and no national officer to be elected by the people of the territory, and they had come to these values with a common purpose and a common faith, there was no local party division, and therefore no party contest.

This condition of affairs continued for many years. After Governor Young had served two terms and new executives were successively appointed, with other officers sent here from the east, and people of different faiths began to come in, the great body of inhabitants remained of one political party as they were of one religious faith. It was not a union of church and state, however, because the affairs of the territory and the affairs of the church were entirely separate and distinct. Men in ecclesiastical authority frequently held civil office, but they were duly elected at the polls and held their posts not by virtue of their church position but by right of the suffrages of the citizens.

The advent of the railroad brought in people from the east seeking adventure, or speculation, or homes in the west, who brought with them their differing views of politics and of religion. They looked with disfavor on the solid phalanx of Mormon unity and regarded it as un-American. As their numbers increased they became bold in their expressions of hostility. This, with the legislation commenced in Congress and the various repressive measures of the government against the Mormon people, favored if not fostered by the anti-Mormon element in Utah, tended to cement the majority more firmly together and render the local

political efforts in opposition totally futile and abortive.

Although there had been some small attempts at political division, it was not until 1870 that there was any thorough organization against the dominant power. Seceders from the Mormons united with the other elements of discontent, and an independent municipal ticket was put into the field which obtained about three hundred votes, and a party was organized which developed into the Liberal party now existing and commanding nearly 7,000 votes.

It was on account of the opposition thus developed that the Mormon people entered into a regular political organization called the People's party. It had no reference to the national parties, nor was it intended to agitate national questions except as they related to Utah. It was a local organization for local purposes, and soon extended to every part of the territory. Its members studied political principles in general but not, to any great extent, party doctrines in particular. Their sympathies were largely with Democratic ideas because of their desires for complete local self-government, and because the Republican party had from its inception taken a hostile attitude against the Mormon church on the ground that it practiced polygamy and exercised political domination. But the People's party had within it advocates of the principles of both the great national parties.

The Liberal party was composed of both professed Republicans and Democrats, the former largely predominating. They temporarily deployed into their respective party ranks every four years so as to gain recognition by the national party organizations during a presidential campaign. But during the rest of the time they presented as solid a front as Liberals as did the Mormons in the People's party.

For a long time the efforts of the Liberals were entirely in vain as to the offices in city, county or territory. Tooele county was captured in 1874 by illegal votes of miners who stuffed the ballot boxes. But it was regained by the People's party four years later, after its county warrants had been reduced in value from par to less than fifteen cents on the dollar. The building up of Park City as a mining town occasioned the loss of Summit county and its subjection to the Liberal party, but not with the same results as Tooele, the leading Liberals there being of a better and more capable class. This was the sum of their achievements for some time.

Later they were successful in procuring legislation in Congress which gave them hope. The operations of the Edmunds act of 1882 and of the Edmunds-Tucker act of 1887 cut down the vote of the People's party considerably. The influx of non-Mormon population through mining developments and real estate booms augmented the Liberal forces. And at length, through the official help of the Utah Commission and the manipulation of the registration lists under the leadership of astute professional politicians, the Liberal party succeeded in capturing Ogden city and subsequently Salt Lake city, after an exciting and expensive campaign waged on both sides with great enthusiasm and no little skill and executive ability. The evidences are full and complete that these Liberal victories were gained through methods and schemes as illegal as they were unjustifiable.

The avowed purpose of the Liberal party was the suppression of polygamy and the cessation of "church rule." It was announced by its leaders and press that with the abandonment of polygamy by the Mormon church and the dissolution of the People's party, its mission would be at an end.

In the fall of 1890 the president of the Mormon church officially announced submission to the laws of the United States on his own part and in behalf of the members of the church. This was formally endorsed by unanimous vote of the body in general conference assembled in October of the same year. Plural marriages had ceased to be solemnized for some time previous to this announcement.

The leading members of the People's party had for two or three years contemplated dividing into the national parties, and the subject had been earnestly discussed on many occasions. But the unwillingness of the local Republican and Democratic organizations which, as explained, figured periodically as separate bodies, but ordinarily united as the Liberal party, to recognize such members of the People's party as endeavored to join them on national lines, strengthened the arguments of those who advocated the continuance of the People's party indefinitely.

But prominent Liberals, recognizing the sincerity of the Mormon people, in submitting to the laws of the land after testing their validity in the courts and finding that their constitutionality was beyond further legal question, perceiving the willingness of many People's party men to forsake the old lines and train with the national parties, made advances

to them and were cordially met in the spirit of conciliation. The consequence was that the People's party was formally dissolved. Some of the county organizations commenced to disband. The territorial central committee met on regular call, and, after discussing the question, decided to recommend the disbanding of the party. This advice was followed throughout the territory and the People's party was gradually but speedily disbanded.

The Democratic and Republican organizations were placed on a new footing. Former Liberals united with former People's party men and invited all to come within their ranks. A campaign of political education was inaugurated and party politics became the popular topic in every settlement in the Territory. The two purported objects of the Liberal party had been accomplished, and as a logical and consistent sequence that party should also then have been dissolved.

But this did not suit the purpose and design of the great body of the Liberal party, dominated by a few radical leaders. They pretended that the movements of the Mormon people were not sincere. They were not willing to join in the division movement. Unless they could control the political body they would not unite with it. They therefore stood aloof, fighting with shadows, scoffing and scolding at the ghosts of dead issues, and vainly striving to make past conditions an excuse for present hostilities.

The revolution effected in Utah affairs could not go backward. Gradually many of the most influential Republicans and Democrats came out from the Liberal ranks and joined the division movement. Leading Mormons stepped forward and, side by side with Gentile advocates, took the platform to promulgate the principles of the respective parties.

In consequence of the Democratic tendencies of the former People's party, evinced in its platforms and declarations, it was supposed that the great body of its adherents would go over to the Democratic party. It was further surmised that the church would cast its influence in the same direction. But on application to the Mormon Presidency for their political views and intentions, they published most emphatic declarations that, as far as they were concerned, the members of the Church were perfectly and entirely free to choose which party they pleased. And also that they would exercise no sacerdotal authority whatever in party affairs. They expressed the opinion that it would be better for Utah if the people were divided as to national parties than if they were all members of the same party. But they avowed they would abstain from using any ecclesiastical influence whatever as to party affiliations.

The first territorial election after the division took place was scarcely a full test of the strength of the national parties in Utah. It occurred in August 1891 and resulted in the election to the territorial Legislature of 24 Democrats and 12 Liberals. Out of a total of 27,000 the Democratic vote was 14,157; the Liberal vote 7,404, and the Republican vote 6,339. The Liberals polled their full strength. But a great many voters who desired to see the Liberal candidates defeated and believed that it was impossible to elect the Republican nominees, and having not yet declared themselves on either side, cast their votes so as to make sure of the election of Democrats instead of Liberals. Thus the Republican strength could not be fully estimated by the returns of that election.

At two or three municipal elections that followed, the Republicans gained a victory by small majorities. This was effected by diligent work and by the alleged use of church influence on the part of some persons who, without authority, intimated that they conveyed the views of the Mormon leaders. That such influence was used there can be little doubt. That it was unauthorized by the Mormon President is undisputed. And that it succeeded only in a few instances is evident from the figures and the increase of accession to the Republican party from the ranks of those who had been undecided.

The most recent test of political strength was at the general election of November 8, 1892, when in addition to the voting for local officers a candidate for Delegate to Congress was nominated by each of the three parties. An aggressive campaign was fought. Influential men on either side traveled through the territory and addressed the people on the issues of the times and the respective principles of Democracy and Republicanism. Centralization and the tariff for protection were denounced on the one side, and anarchism and free trade on the other. The several arguments were chiefly directed against statehood, which was declared to be imminent if the candidates of either of the regular parties should be elected.

Prominent Mormons took part in the contention, not however, as ecclesiasts, but as citizens, and were as fervent and earnest for their respective parties as any

of their non-Mormon associates. The whole territory was afire with party enthusiasm. This led to some measures that were indefensible. The Republican candidate was the son of a leading and respected Mormon who had himself been a Delegate to Congress. The Democratic candidate was of Mormon parentage, but well known as a non-Mormon lawyer for many years. Pamphlets were printed and distributed by the Republicans with the intent of conveying the impression that the Church leaders had always been "protectionist Republicans" or Whigs, and that the source of all Mormon troubles and persecutions was the Democratic party. The Democratic candidate was denounced as an apostate and a traitor. Some local subordinate church leaders intimated that it was the wish of the authorities that the Republican candidate should be elected, and that the election of the Democratic candidate would be a great disaster.

The votes for Delegate by official count figured as follows: For the Democratic candidate, 15,211; for the Republican, 12,485; for the Liberal, 6,989; total votes, 34,685. This was a gain for both Republicans and Democrats over the vote of 1891, and a small loss to the Liberals, greater however than it appears because the increase of the population should have increased instead of lessened their vote. The larger Republican gain is to be accounted for by the diligent work that was done and to some extent by the influences heretofore alluded to. The Democratic plurality of 2,806 however was highly satisfactory under the circumstances and proved that the great body of Mormon voters were true to their convictions and to their party obligations.

The Liberal party, notwithstanding its great defeat in the Territory, and in Summit county its oldest and greatest stronghold, yet held its own in Salt Lake county and so maintained its position of hostility to the local Democratic and Republican parties. It has kept up its objections to statehood while admitting that condition to be imminent. Still pretending to fear "Mormon domination" it announces its intention to fight against the admission of Utah into the Union. A prominent ex-Liberal, now a leading Democrat, on being asked why it is that the Liberal party and organ still cling to that dead issue, answered, "Because it has nothing else to hang to." This aptly describes its present position.

The political situation in Utah today is a Democratic preponderance of voters and sympathizers sufficient to maintain the supremacy of that party in the event of immediate statehood. When the time comes that the Liberal party shall divide—a period that cannot possibly be far off, the larger section will undoubtedly gravitate to the Republican party. But there are a sufficient number who are known or profess to be Democrats, with the voters who were unduly influenced to support the Republican candidate at the November election, to form a good Democratic majority on a territorial vote and a fair proportion in the various counties and cities.

The great obstacle to Utah's progress now is her territorial condition with peculiar disabilities. Not only is the governor appointed without consent of her citizens, but he holds the power of absolute veto over all her legislation. The Utah Commission appoints all the registration and election officers and is a partisan body in its spirit and acts. The executive and judicial officers of the territory, and even the probate judges in the counties, are appointed by the Federal power. Restrictive congressional laws still regulate the local affairs, although the conditions that were thought to justify their enactment have passed away. Statehood alone is Utah's hope of political redemption and permanent material welfare.

The future, however, is pregnant with promise and radiant with coming glory. Prejudices that have injured Utah for many years are rapidly passing away. Her people are becoming better known. Her resources and capabilities are world-famed. Her fitness for self-government is acknowledged. Only the action of Congress on a bill already presented is necessary to cut the cords that bind her, and to lift her up, free and untrammelled, and fully prepared to join with the rest of the nation in the grand march to the perfection of political liberty and power. Utah's night of political bondage has past. The day-dawn of her glory has come, and the sun of prosperity will soon shine upon her head crowned with the diadem of a sovereign state.

## The Herald Artist.

The host of readers of the COLUMBIAN HERALD should know that the design for the cover of this number was the work of a young HERALD compositor who is self-taught. His name is WATKIN LEWIS ROY, a Utah boy who never received a drawing lesson in his life. His creditable production shows that he is possessed of artistic genius and excellent taste. The work was executed by the Salt Lake Lithograph company, so that from front to back, in cover and contents, the COLUMBIAN HERALD is a Utah product, a specimen of home industry.